

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**



RARS EVENTS:

- The RARS General Membership meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night @ 8 PM on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net is Saturdays @ 8:30 PM or following the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

President's Corner

**Column by Selene Montgomery KG4RMT,
RARS President**

Fall is here with it's cooler and shorter days. Perhaps the shorter days will give you more "radio" time to listen to nets, work HF, take part in contests, or just rag-chew.

Club activities continue to occur. The October meeting will feature the annual RARS auction, always a highlight of the club's year. Check the RARS web site for all of the auction information. Election of officers will be held in November, and the Nominating Committee includes Chuck Littlewood K4HF, Karl Bowman W4CHX, and Hank Montgomery K4HM. If you're interested in serving, get in touch with one of them for more information. Public Service opportunities are also abundant, with several events occurring in the next couple of months. JARSFEST in Benson, NC will be held in November.

There is definitely a lot of activity still going on in the world of amateur radio. Pick what you're interested in and get involved!

Next RARS Meeting: October 6

Annual RARS auction. For more info, visit

<http://rars.org/auction.php>

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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).



The Exciter

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcome articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces.

The submission deadline for each month's *Exciter* is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

Editor: Courtney Enzor KI4HOS (editor@rars.org)

RARS General Meeting

Date: First Tuesday of each month

Location: First Alliance Church
4400 Buffaloe Road
Raleigh, NC

Time: People begin arriving at 7 PM. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 PM.

RARS Monthly Dinner

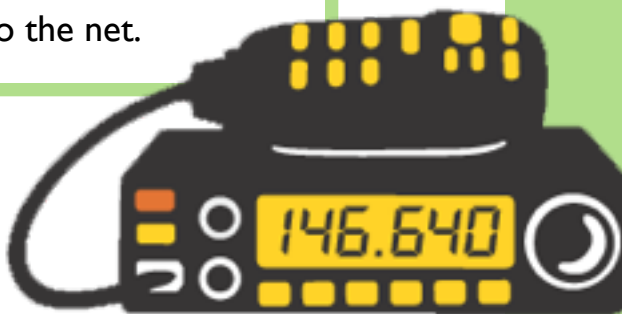
Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family – feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check www.rars.org for details on the next dinner's location.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

145.130 (82.5 PL), 146.640, & 444.525 (82.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net @ 8 PM on the 146.640. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS member to the net.



VE TESTING

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSFest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSFest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, your \$15 exam fee, and any CSEs you have for credit. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

Upcoming Hamfests

- 10/10- 44th Annual Melbourne Hamfest
10/11 Melbourne, FL
<http://www.pcars.org/Hamfest2009/>
- 10/31 BeachFest 2009
Garden City, SC
<http://www.w4gs.org/beachfest/>
- 11/7- Stone Mountain Hamfest
11/8 Lawrenceville, GA
<http://www.totr-radio.org/08hamfest/>
- 11/14 Alabama State Convention
Montgomery, AL
[http://www.w4ap.org/modules.php?
name=Hamfest](http://www.w4ap.org/modules.php?name=Hamfest)
- 11/15 21st Annual JARSFEST
Benson, NC
<http://jars.net/>
- 12/5- Tampa Bay Hamfest
12/6 Palmetto, FL
<http://fgcarc.org/>

October Birthdays

Pete	K4PHS	10/2
Jay	KM4EP	10/2
Dave	K4SAN	10/2
Dale	W4AUV	10/5
Rod	AB4RG	10/5
Todd	AG4AY	10/8
Mike	K4PSP	10/9
Chris	KI4MMV	10/10
Gale	K4GGB	10/10
Frank	KY4W	10/11
Richard	KB4TKQ	10/15
Sean	KJ4EGT	10/17
Chuck	KC4JGI	10/21
Joey	KE4DRJ	10/21
Gary	KN4AQ	10/22
Ric	KI4PVC	10/25
Cecil	KG4OQC	10/26
Mike	W0MDS	10/26

August 2009 RARS Net Reports

Checkins: 502	Special Interest Nets:
Traffic: 25/22	Checkins: 285
Minutes: 655	Minutes: 995
Sessions: 31	Sessions: 15

Auction Time – Let the Bidding Commence!

Article by Cliff Broughton W4FT, RARS Auctioneer

October means it's time to place your bids! Yes, the October 6th club meeting program will be the annual RARS Auction! After a short business meeting at 7:30, be prepared to bid on treasures ranging from radios and computers to accessories and anything ham radio related that may be offered for auction by your fellow hams!

Once again, you can bring those ham radio or computer related items to be auctioned off to the luckiest bidder. (Yes, I said that with a straight face, almost.) Items for sale can range from radios, antennas, and project kits to computers, direction finding systems, or even "treasure box" lots. You don't need to be a club member to buy or sell. Everyone is invited to participate or just to watch.

Registration opens at 6:45, and as usual, refreshments will be available at about 7:00 followed by a short meeting at 7:30. The auction will start after the meeting.

<http://rars.org/auction.php>

BUYERS

- Come in early (7:00 or so) and look over the items for auction.
- Ask questions BEFORE the auction starts! We can't stop the proceeding while you read the manual.
- Bring enough cash to make change for any items you buy or sell.
- Buyers pay sellers directly and immediately. Expect to pay cash.
- RARS is not a party in any sale or purchase.
Also, RARS does not "take a cut" or charge any fees.
- RARS does welcome donations. Donations are tax exempt and receipts will be available.
- Read the Seller's section below so that you understand what's happening.

SELLERS

Before leaving home:

- **Figure out what to sell.** Generally, it should be *ham radio or computer related or of clear and obvious interest* to this audience. For example, in addition to ham and computer gear, good choices would include a pay telephone, emergency warning beacons that could be used in public service, a digital camera, a lamp made from a broadcast transmitter vacuum tube or a power meter, etc. Don't bring your Aunt Mae's spring dress or cousin Jimmy's bicycle, or any other

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ordinary household item. It simply won't be accepted. The auctioneer has the final decision to accept any item for auction. – see rule #1.

- **Label it!** Mark your equipment *clearly* with your name and Call-sign using a label, tag, masking tape, etc. and leave room on your label for a registration number to be assigned by the auctioneer.
- **Do not show a reserve price on the item label.** If you have a minimum bid please put the word "RESERVE" on your label. You will write the reserve price on your registration card **ONLY!** (see below).
- Have the information indicated below with you when you arrive.

At the Auction:

- **Check-in and Registration starts at 6:45 PM** for check-in/registration of items to be sold.
- For each item or lot (group of items to be sold together) fill out a **numbered registration card (provided by RARS)** showing the following information:
 - Your **name** and **callsign**.
 - **Description** - What the item is (Frammistat 1000 analog kibitzing decoder)
 - **Condition** of item (It worked the last time I tried it, about 10 years ago)
 - **Minimum bid accepted** (reserve \$ amount -or- "NO RESERVE")
- **Copy the registration card number to the label you previously placed on the item.**
- All items should be ham radio or computer related or of clear and obvious interest. **The auctioneer has the right to reject any item.**
- Hang around in case any potential buyers have questions for you before the auction start. Wearing a name tag with your call is a really good idea for this event.
- When your item comes up, **be prepared to describe the item.** The auctioneer will read the info from the registration card. After this, he will probably ask you to describe it in detail, or may ask you a question about it. At the very least, we need to know who and where you are in the audience. Be alert. We need more lerts.
- **Reserve Prices** – A reserve price is the minimum price that the seller will accept. If an item has a reserve price, the auction will start **BELOW** that price. If the bidding does not go above the reserve, the auctioneer will ask the seller if he will accept the highest legitimate bid that has been made (see below). If the seller does accept, then the buyer pays the seller. If not, the seller takes his item back. If the bid goes over the reserve, it will sell.
- **SOLD!** When an item sells, the buyer needs to pay the seller immediately and then takes possession of the item. The auctioneer's helpers will help get the

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buyer, seller, and item together. The auction will continue while this is going on. If the auctioneer wins something, this will be done at the end of the auction, so wait until then, or follow the auctioneer's instructions.

- **After the Auction** – If you brought something that did not sell, take it home. Please don't leave anything behind. We will not clean up or throw away your treasures, that's your job. Also, please help us clean up the room afterwards.
- **RARS and Donations** – The club does not take a "cut" of the transaction, however you may donate part of all of an item's proceeds to the club if you wish. Donations to RARS are tax deductible, and the treasurer will give you a receipt. If you wish to donate equipment, you **MUST** discuss this with the RARS Treasurer, who has the right to accept or decline any non-monetary donation. (It costs the club a lot to hold and store "things", sometimes more than they are worth, so cash donations are preferred.)

WHAT SELLS?

You never know who's buying what. "Big Ticket" items are sometimes a hard-sell, especially if you're looking for "market price." This is bargain-time. You might sell an HT or two-meter mobile at \$50-\$200, but probably not a \$400 HF rig. Conversely, if something is a real bargain at \$500, or someone is really looking for something you brought, it may sell easily! It all depends on the buyers that are there. This is not to discourage anything, but to set expectations.

On the other hand you'd be surprised at the junk, errr... ummm... treasures that do sell. We sometimes hear people say that they were disappointed that there were not many radios for sale, so if you have something to part with, bring it on! If it doesn't sell, it still may provide some fun. We have a lot of fun with this stuff, especially if it is unique! For example, we once had a bidding war on a pay telephone! (It is sitting in the Auctioneer's shack right now.)

Someone recently asked me, "*How is a pay phone a good idea when Jimmy's bicycle that could be used to produce generator output is not acceptable?*" The pay phone is both a communications device and a very unique item that we can have some fun with. Add those two facts together and it passes muster. However, unless Jimmy's bicycle has the generator already mounted and can power a Field Day station, please leave the ordinary items at home with Jimmy.

LOT SALES VS. SINGLE ITEMS

When you're getting your treasures together for the auction, please think about the event. We usually go long on time. If you have a box full of computer components that you would like to sell as a single lot, great! But, if you have 12 floppy drives, five 486

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computers and 3 dot matrix printers that you want to have auctioned as individual items, it's not going to happen. Please think carefully about items of very low value. Lots are OK and can be fun, but we probably won't have time to piece out a "box of treasures" item by item. If you have a large number of items, it is ok to group them into 1, 2 or 3 lots. (Think carefully before going more than 2 lots.) Treasure boxes are always fun! If in doubt, ask the auctioneer before we start.

On the other hand, it is appropriate to bring a number of individual items of obvious value to be auctioned separately. For example, a modern color inkjet printer, a wireless network card in excellent condition with manuals, software and packaging, a 500 GB SATA drive, or similar current technology with a reasonable fair market value (say \$15 or more each.)

A WORD ABOUT BIDS DURING THE AUCTION

During the auction, you may find that you have bid on something and you didn't know you did. Usually, this means that the auctioneer has an item with a reserve price and he is getting the bidding going, but the bid is well below the reserve, so don't worry. He knows what's going on and you won't be held responsible for this bid. It does lead to a lot of fun though sometimes.

Other times, you may find that while conversing with your buddy, you suddenly found that you bid on the item up for auction. It means that you were running your mouth too loud in the back of the room and the auctioneer took notice of your "intent to bid" so get your wallet out! If you don't believe this, read rule number 1. Want more proof? Ask some previous attendees!

The auctioneer and his assistants are also free to bid. If they do, it will be made very obvious. The auctioneer has no advantage here and will give every chance for someone else to bid higher.

Remember, along with some buying and selling, this is, most of all, about having lots of fun!

The auctioneer will go over the auction rules in detail before the bidding starts.

Finally, just remember rule number 1 and everyone will have a blast!

Oh yeah, want to know what Rule #1 is? Come to the Auction!

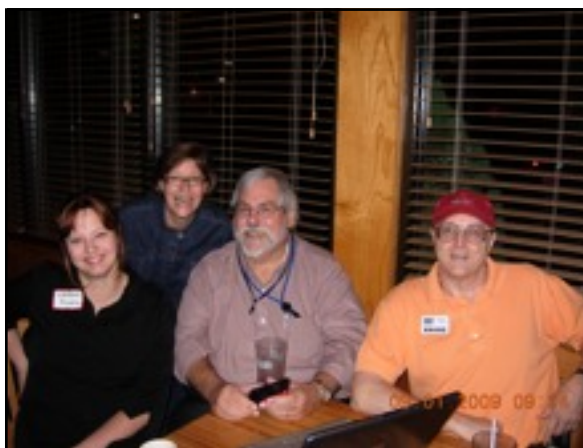
The Meeting After the Meeting

Photos by CJ Orr KJ4OBQ

Captions by Chuck Littlewood K4HF



Mary Jo K4MJL modeling AC4ZO's cap for Chuck K4HF.



Angela KB3DKK, Bill N9JLP, CJ KJ4OBQ, and Gary KN4AQ.



From the left: Gary KN4AQ, Jack N6UYB, Greg KE4PAX, Marty W4MY, Jeff AC4ZO, Mary Jo K4MJL, Chuck K4HF and Hank K4HM. Others were Selene KG4RMT, CJ KJ4OBQ, Alan AB4OZ, Cliff W4FT, Rick KB4TKQ, Angela KB3DKK, Karl W4CHX and Bill N9HLP.

More Bikes, Fewer Hams for 2009 BikeMS

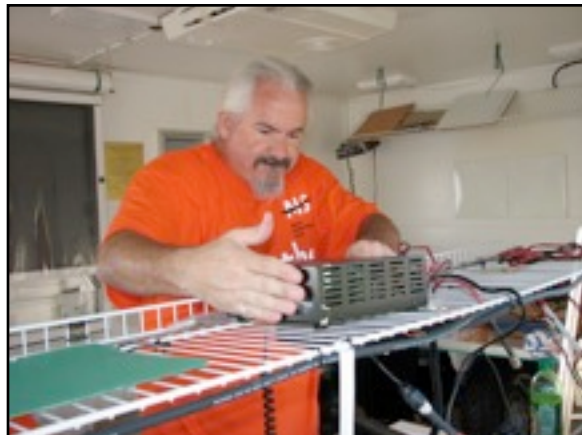
Article by Gary Pearce KN4AQ

BikeMS 2009 was a huge success for the Eastern NC Chapter of the MS Society, with about 2300 bicycles covering multiple loops of up to 100 miles per day out east and the Triangle, though, scraped by with fewer participants than in any recent year. Less than 30 hams volunteered as SAGS, Rest Stop operators, event staff shadows, etc.

Good weather and better logistics combined to minimize any problems the shortage of hams might have caused. Last year, SAGS were kept busy when hot weather exhausted more riders than we had capacity to move. This year, a refined "SuperSAG" system parked large vans at most rest stops to transport tired riders to the finish line, so the ham/SAGS could concentrate on riders in trouble along the route. And a new procedure for restocking rest stops that ran low on supplies took that traffic off the ham radio net.



Bruce N8UTY at Net Control.



Bill K4VHO solves a power emergency.

Improved cell phone coverage allowed more riders to phone in emergencies, both to 911 and a special BikeMS emergency line. That number was answered in the Net Control trailer, and ham coordinator Bruce Arnold N8UTY reported a steady stream of calls. For the first time, no ham/SAGs were "first on scene" of an accident, though most of the time a SAG or MS official arrived before an ambulance did. Medics dispatched on our net also usually arrived first for initial treatment and assessment. There were three hospital transports each day, but none of the injuries turned out to be serious. There were no broken bones!

Hame Radio Still Critical

None of this is to say that the ham radio operation wasn't critical to the event success, or that hams didn't put in tremendous effort. I was shadowing new Chapter President Jeff Furst. This was only his second experience with a bike tour, and he quickly

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recognized the value of our wide area "party-line" communications. Event staff, medics, SAG drivers and everyone on the net are instantly updated on the status of any incident, and everyone can quickly contribute to solve a problem.

The ham radio operation used the Grifton 146.685 (88.5 tone) repeater for primary communications, with Bruce N8UTY and Bill Sanford K4VHO as net controls. The Grifton repeater is a wide coverage machine run by the Eastern North Carolina Repeater Association, and sits on the edge of the course. PCRN's Trenton repeater on 145.31 (82.5 tone) provided secondary coverage. SAGS with multiple-frequency capability also monitored 147.42 simplex for quick communication between stations in close proximity.

The Triangle Connection

Although the event, now "BikeMS" but long known as the MS-150, has been centered in New Bern for a decade, more than half the hams volunteering are from the Triangle area, and most of them from RARS. Our connection goes back to the first MS-150 in 1989, when RARS began coordinating communications for this and other MS events, usually in our backyard. The MS-150 was always the most ambitious, and over the years it has changed routes several times, but always starting in the Raleigh area and ending up somewhere along the coast.

The move to New Bern has been popular with the riders. Throughout the 90's, the MS-150 drew a few hundred cyclists. Since 2000, we've seen steady growth, topping 2000 last year and 2300 this year. Most cyclists wouldn't consider back-to-back 75-mile rides on their own. But the support they receive in an event like this, including the reassuring presence of a radio-equipped SAG vehicle passing by frequently, makes a challenging ride like this possible.

N8UTY Resigns as Coordinator

In e-mail following this year's event, radio coordinator Bruce Arnold N8UTY announced his desire to retire as coordinator (but continue his duties in the Net Control trailer). Bruce has been running the show for nine years, so he's served his sentence and deserves a break. Before that, communications was led by several RARS Public Service Directors and their appointees. We'll be looking for a replacement, most likely from the New Bern area. But we expect continued participation from RARS and Triangle area hams for years to come.



Austin KI4ATB "shadowing" BikeMS Coordinator Haley Transou.

Minutes by Charles Swindell WB4DCM, RARS Secretary August 18, 2009 RARS Board Meeting Minutes

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society Board of Directors held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 18 at the Triangle Radio Reading Service on Six Forks Road, Raleigh. The following members were present: John AI4RT, Ken KI4OTO, Chuck K4HF, Gary KN4AQ, Selene KG4RMT, Hank K4HM, Karl W4CHX, and Charlie WB4DCM.

The meeting was called to order by President Selene KG4RMT at 7:05PM. The minutes of the July meeting were approved.

Secretary Charlie WB4DCM brought up the issue of the slip which RARS asks visitors to complete. We will attempt to get a complete email address so that the secretary may send a welcome letter. Secretary Charlie will work with Chuck K4HF to update the form.

Treasurer Greg KE4PAX was not present but he had sent a report. We currently have 209 members. At the end of last fiscal year, we had 272. The financial review has been completed.

VP Karl W4CHX advises that the gift for Danny Hampton K4ITL has been received in good order. We are looking at October to do the presentation. Our September meeting program will be divided into two parts: part one Ken KI4OTO will demo dipole antennas and part two will be a video of the FCC's Ms. Smith presentation at Dayton. The October meeting will be the annual auction. There are several possibilities for the November meeting.

Committee Reports:

- Education Committee Virginia NC4VA was not present but our understanding is that the fall class is on schedule.
- Web Master Hank K4HM made a rather extensive report on the RARS web page. For the first part of August, the bandwidth used was 3.64 GB. The busiest day is Friday's. We are getting hits from other countries including Canada, Mexico, Russia, and France.
- Public Service Chair John AI4RT has just updated the web site with upcoming events. There are four more events including the Red Cross at the State Fair on October 15th-25.
- 2010 Hamfest Chair John AI4RT advised that the first hamfest meeting will be on Monday, September 28 at TRRS.
- FM Repeaters Gary KN4AQ reports that 444.525 still has not been repaired.

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Old Business:

- President Selene brought up the issue of the storage unit and do we need to expand to a larger one. After some discussion, it was decided that our current storage unit was large enough.

New Business:

- Chuck K4HF will again chair the nomination committee.
- There was discussion about our holiday membership meeting. It is time to start lining up entertainment and deciding other issues.
- Chuck K4HF advised that Grover Cobb W4YZX made a donation to the club.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Minutes by Charles Swindell WB4DCM, RARS Secretary August 4, 2009 RARS General Meeting Minutes

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 1, 2009 at the First Alliance Church on Buffaloe Road, Raleigh.

Ken KI4OTO did a demonstration of HF dipole antenna construction in front of the church.

At 7:45 PM, the meeting moved into the building. President Selene KG4RMT called the meeting to order. Our visitors were Angela Pender KB3DKK, Ed Kitchen KO2H, and Marty Young W4MY. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer Greg KE4PAX provided a treasurers report. RARS now has 212 members.

VP Karl W4CHX thanked Ken KI4OTO for his presentation. The October meeting will be the auction and Cliff W4FT will be the auctioneer. See the Exciter or RARS Website for details on the auction. The November meeting will have Denny Had, W4USR of Cary Audio doing a presentation on the state of the art of high fidelity equipment. December will be the Christmas party and entertainment.

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The following announcements were made:

- Our monthly dinner will be on Tuesday, September 8 at the Golden Corral.
- The Board will meet on Tuesday, September 15 at the Triangle Radio Reading Service on Six Forks Road. All RARS members are eligible to attend.
- The Shelby hamfest will be September 5 and 6.
- The Virginia Beach hamfest will be September 12 and 13.
- The Myrtle Beach hamfest is October 31 (Halloween).
- Chuck K4HF announced that the QCWA will hold its meeting on September 12 in Siler City. Visitors are welcome.
- The after meeting get together will happen immediately following the meeting.
- Virginia NC4VA Education Coordinator advised that a Technician Class is coming up in the fall. The dates will be Oct 10 and 24, with exams on the 24. She also stated that the Exciter needs news articles.
- Dick KD4ISC advised that the MS Bike event in New Bern needs help. Please send him an email if you can help.
- Chuck K4HF advised that he had not received official word from the Red Cross about volunteers for the State Fair. The state fair is October 15 to the 25. Update: The Red Cross will not require or assistance at the NCSF this year.
- John AI4RT Public Service Director needs volunteers for Rides Unlimited in Wake Forest. See the RARS PS Calendar.
- Hank K4HM Web Master stated that the classified ads can be read by anyone but only RARS members can make postings. The ads will remain on the web for 30 days.
- Ken KI4OTO is trying to arrange a visit to WCPE station for October 4.

The door prize drawings were won by Wilber WD4RDT and Frank KA2FWC. It should be noted that Karl W4CHX won but declined.

Karl W4CHX advised that we would have video of the FCC forum at the 2009 Dayton Hamvention. Gary KN4AQ did introductions and blow by blow commentary for comments by Mr. Hollingsworth from the 2007 Dayton FCC Forum. Some quick clips of a ham with a 2KW (yes, two kilowatts) backpack!!!! Then Mrs. Laura Smith, FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement made her presentation. She told some funny antidotes about her father then got into a brief description of the complaints and the manner in which they are handled by the FCC.

President Selene KG4RMT thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55PM.

Local Amateur Radio Nets

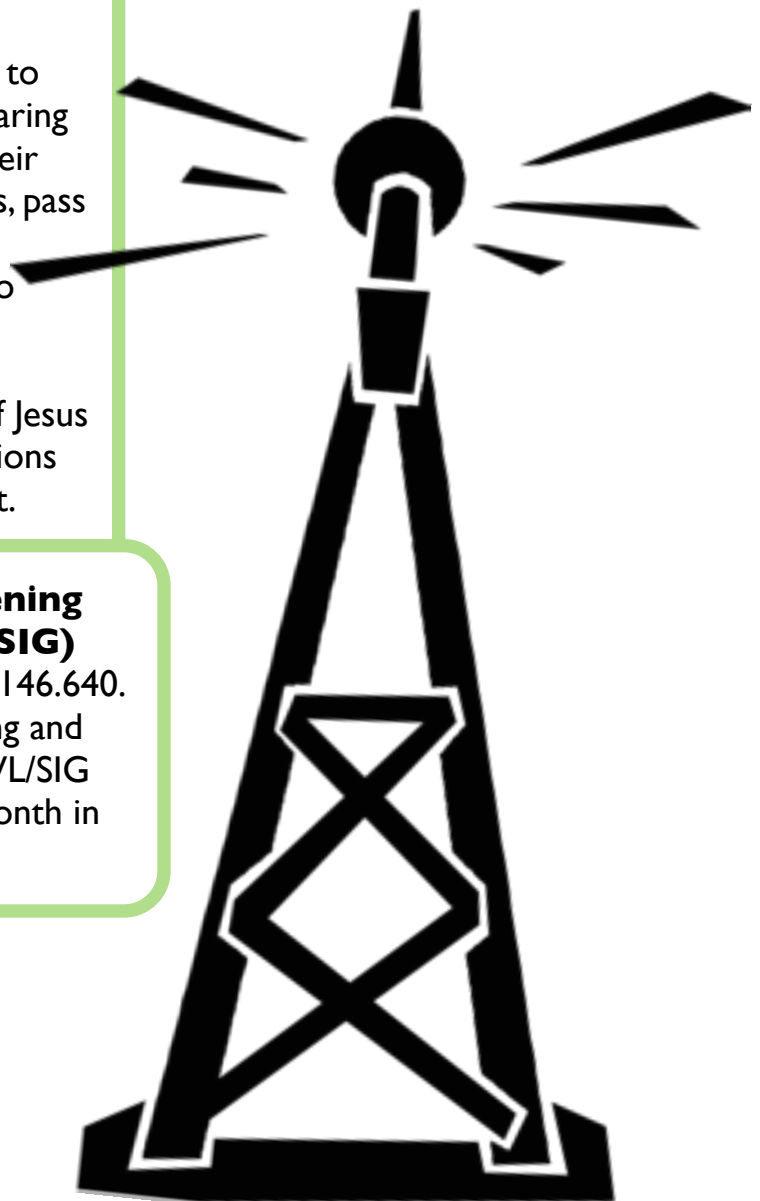
The **RARS Technical & Trader's Net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.640 after the 8 PM RARS net.

Apex Emergency Response Communications Net

This net meets weekly each Sunday evening @ 9 PM on the 146.640 repeater. The purpose of the net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet. The Apex ERC Net provides amateur radio emergency communications for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. All stations are invited to participate in this net.

Join the **Tarheel Shortwave Listening (SWL) Special Interest Group (SIG) Net** on Monday evenings @ 9 PM on 146.640. We discuss *all* areas of radio monitoring and welcome your logs! We also have a SWL/SIG meeting on the third Monday of the month in addition to our regular net.

The **VOIP Hurricane Net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to www.voipwx.net.



Local Amateur Radio Nets

Join us every evening at 8 PM on the 146.640 repeater for the **RARS Two-Meter Net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcome to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

The **PCTN (Piedmont Costal Traffic Net)** meets every night at 9 PM on the 146.880. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 (PL tone 82.5).

The **Wake County ARES Net** meets Thursdays around 2115 on the 146.880 repeater. We provide discussion and training for the implementation and provision of emergency communications for our served agencies, such as the American

Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. For more information, check out www.wakeares.org.

Central Carolina SKYWARN

Please join us each Tuesday @ 9:15 PM on the 146.880 repeater for the CCS net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net.

October 20: "Understanding Turbulence" with NWS Hydrologist and Pilot Mike Moneypenny.

November 10: "Winter Weather Outlook and More!" with NWS Meteorologist-in-Charge Darin Figurskey KC2IPY.

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 Net** every Monday night at 7:30 PM. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Coastal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit www.carolina440.net.

Calling All HAMS: Come Operate Aboard BB-55 From Scuttlebutt, Newsletter of the Battleship North Carolina

Our dedicated radio volunteers from the Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club approached us several months ago with an idea they borrowed from the USS MISSOURI. They wanted to offer fellow HAMS the opportunity to transmit from the Battleship NORTH CAROLINA's radio rooms. Thanks to their willingness to staff this program, it is a reality.

Operating under the call of the ship, NI4BK, guests may enjoy a 2-hour appointment with a club member who will meet them at the Battleship ticket window. Operations will be on a 20-meter voice using a modern transceiver located in the ship's original main radio room. For operators who prefer CW (Morse code), transmissions will occur from the ship's main transmitter room. Operators will need to bring their own key or use the ship's straight key. Azalea Coast members will take care of all QSL cards. Appointments are free with regular paid ship admission. To make an appointment, please contact Kim Sincox, Museum Services Director: 910-251-5797 extension 3006 or museum@battleshipnc.com.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's

EXCITER

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